1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Kevin Godlewski on October 22, 2010.

Specification, page 7, line 30 and claim 28, line 2, correct the spelling of "phthallic" to --phthalic--.

Claims 1 and 2:

Line 2, after "crosslinker" insert a comma --,--.

Line 3, replace ", by weight, of" with --of--.

Lines 4, 7 (claim 2) and 8 (claim 1), replace "parts of" with --parts by weight of a--.

Lines 12 and 15 (claim 1) and lines 11 and 14 (claim 2), before each of "mono-functional organic material" and "dicarboxylic acid" insert --a--.

Claim 1, lines 5 and 6; claim 2, lines 5 and 6; claim 3, line 3; claim 4, line 2; claim 10, lines 3-4 and 4; claim 15, line 2; claim 16, line 2; claim 17, line 2; claim 22, line 3: Amend "bis phenol" to --bisphenol--.

Claim 15, line 1, replace "The use of a" with --A-- to correct improper use claim language.

Claim 23, line 1, change the dependency from claim "21" to claim --22-- since claim 22 is the process claim and claim 21 is a coating composition claim.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

2. The closest prior art to Tanner Patent No. 3,355,401 discloses the reaction of a glycidyl polyether of a dihydric phenol with a monobasic fatty acid and dibasic fatty acid in a ratio of from 1:1 to 5:1 (col. 2, lines 17-20. The claimed diepoxy resin formed from the reaction of a bipshenol A diglycidyl ether and bisphenol A is not recited, nor is there any motivation to react the glycidyl polyether of a dihydric phenol of Tanner therewith.

3. Japanese Patent No. 52-36132 designated as a X reference in the International Search Report (ISR) filed September 27, 2006 describes the reaction product of a bisphenol epoxy resin, with fatty acids and polycarboxylic acids without the claimed molar ratio of from 3:1 to 12:1.

4. Tobias Patent No. 4,098,735 (designated as a X reference in the ISR) and Japanese Patent No. 4-323277 set forth the reaction product of a digycidyl ether of bisphenol A with a monocarboxylic acid, dicarboxylic acid and anhydride in converted molar ratios of monocarboxylic acid:dicarboxylic acid of from 2:1 to 4:1 and between about 0.4:1 and about 1:1, respectively. Tobias does not recite the claimed molar ratio of from 3:1 to 12:1. The additional anhydride reactant of Tobias and the Japanese patent is not claimed and yields an functionally and structurally distinct modified epoxy resin from that claimed. Furthermore, the claimed diepoxy resin formed from the reaction of a bipshenol A diglycidyl ether and bisphenol A is not recited, nor is there any motivation to react the diglycidyl ether of bisphenol A of the references.

5. Bekooij et al. Patent No. 4,686,248 (designated as a X reference in the ISR) reports the reaction of an alkyl phenol and dicarboxylic acid with a multifunctional polyglycidyl ether with greater than 2 epoxy groups per molecule (col. 2, lines 3-5) not within the claimed bisphenol A diglycidyl ether. The claimed molar ratio of mono-functional organic material to dicarboxylic acid of from 3:1 to 12:1 is not recited.

6. The claimed minor amounts of resin components of molecular weight of less than 1000 Daltons is defined on page 5, lines 12-16 as less than 50% by weight of total diepoxy resin solids.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

(571) 272-1093 (Fax No. (571)-273-8300)
Monday to Friday, 9:30 to 6:00

/Robert Sellers/
Primary Examiner
Division 1765

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10/22/2010